

**Minutes of the April 2, 2014 Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of Adirondack Mountain Club, Inc., held at Saratoga Springs, New York, in the Civalier Conference Room of the Wesley Health Center**

**Present:** Laura Fiske, Bill Bechtel, Maureen Coutant, Pat Desbiens, Tom Ellis, Gretchen Steen, Jonathan Lane, Steve Mackey, and Jill Gruben. Also attending, Anne Paolano.

**Chair Laura Fiske** opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

**The minutes** of the March meeting and treasurer's report could not be approved because a required eleven person quorum of voting board members was not present.

**Treasurer Steve Mackey** presented the January, February and March 2014 financial results. Steve reported that the Chapter is sponsoring five teens at the DEC summer camp in addition to several teen trails sponsorships. Total assets at the end of March were \$8809.79.

Maureen Coutant will take over treasurer duties while Steve is off into the wild hiking the PCT.

**Laura Fiske, Charter Chair,** briefly mentioned that there are three new Chapter members that have shown interest in taking positions on the Executive Board.

Also, Chapter outings will be posted beginning in April on the "Meetup" website on a six month trial basis at a cost of \$36.00 if someone volunteers to be the Meetup coordinator. Laura Fiske has been unable to contact Roberta Daab, the member interested in publicity, to see if this is something she can also do for the chapter. Outings leaders have the option of not listing on this website if they choose not to participate. The same rules apply for all outings no matter what source the hiker learned of the outing (e.g. the hike leader should be contacted before the hike and the outings participant must sign the "liability release" form). A brief discussion ensued about whether Chapter members have priority over those joining the outing through "Meet Up". It was generally thought that this should not be an issue because outings do not often exceed the maximum participation set by the hike leader or DEC regulations. If maxing out on outing participation becomes an issue this can be discussed and a policy established at a later time.

The Chapter by-laws have been amended to dissolve the Annual Dinner committee chair. This will be voted on at the annual meeting this fall. Note that after the meeting Laura reported via email that she found the 2007 by-law changes. There was only the removal of the 3rd vice chair and the addition of the YMG committee. We are now set to move forward with the 2014 by-law amendments.

Kerri Healy, as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, will coordinate nominations for 2015 Officers and Directors. Laura reported that she and Kerri are eligible for one additional one year term since they were appointed in 2013 and that year does not count towards term limits; Bill Bechtel is up for re-election for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term as Director; Linda Ronado's third and last, two year term ends this year as Director; Jonathan Lane is not seeking re-election to a second, two year term as Director and is also vacating his position as YMG committee chair.

The volunteer request form is final and will be posted to the website and sent to Pat to put in the "new member" packet.

**Jonathan Lane, Younger Members Group Chair**, reported that there are now 227 “friends” on the Chapter’s Facebook page and 99 YMG’s “friends”. Jonathan posed the question to the executive committee: “What would we do with more money coming into the Chapter treasury”.

Jonathan was of the opinion that some of our Outdoor Leaders are no more experienced than those leading hikes not aligned with any outdoor club. Some executive committee member disagreed; but Jonathan thought it would be a good idea for Outdoor Leaders to every so often review Club Policy A19 or have someone from the Club give training to the Chapter. Jonathan was also questioning why we are one of only a few Chapters that do not allow dogs on our outings. Laura reminded everyone that this policy was reviewed earlier in the year and most were in agreement with our present policy that leaders can bring dogs if it is expressed they are doing so in the outing description.

**Mo reporting for the Programs Committee**, in the absence of Chair Sarah King, reminded everyone that the next program on Thursday April 24 is titled “A Taste of Tanzania”, about treks, towns and safaris near the roof of Africa.

**Tom Ellis, Trails Committee Chair**, reported that the trail-work on Tongue Mountain will take place on Saturday April 26.

**Anne Paolano, Annual Dinner organizer**, reported that she is looking at dates in October for Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup>. Dinner prices were discussed and it was agreed that 30 dollars per dinner should be the upper limit. Laura said that \$800.00 had been budgeted for entertainment and approximately \$400.00 for other purposes. Usually six guest dinners are paid for out of that amount. Anne agreed to look at The Wishing Well, Panza’s and Lillian’s as potential places to hold the dinner. Jill Gruben volunteered to contact either Jim or Joe Bruchac (story tellers) for entertainment. Also Steve Mackey is going to contact a person who knows the film makers of the ADK 46er film, who may be able to provide a talk about the film.

**Jill Gruben, Newsletter Chair**, reported that the newsletter deadline was April 1. She also spoke briefly about having a series in the newsletter profiling Chapter members.

**Pat Desbiens, Membership Chair**, reported that in February there were 7 new memberships and 3 renewals, a change of plus 4 members over January.

**On a motion by Tom Ellis**, seconded by Maureen Coutant, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Bechtel for Secretary John Caffry

**Next meeting – May 7, 2014 at Carl R’s, Northway Exit 19, Glens Falls**